

EL PASO HERALD

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No. 97 *John M. Mason* Secretary.

HERALD TRAVELING AGENTS.

Persons solicited to subscribe for The Herald should beware of impostors and should not pay money to anyone unless he can show that he is legally authorized to receive it.

Pensions For Employees

TIME will come when every great commercial organization will establish a pension roll for its employees—if the exactions of the employees in the matter of wages do not forestall such practice by making it impossible out of the earnings of the companies.

Practically all of the great railroad corporations have already taken such a step and now comes a big street railway concern, the traction company of Philadelphia, with a pension system. This company has not only established a pension system, but a death benefit and has voluntarily increased the wages of its men and made it possible for them to get still further increases by remaining continuously in the service of the company, the increase occurring every two years.

Such acts as these cannot but improve the service of the corporations adopting them. The pension and death benefit features are an incentive to keep employees with the same concern in continuous service, and the increase in wages hold out to the men as the time of service increases, is a further strong feature in this respect. The longer an employee remains with any company, if he is faithful and competent, the better service he can give to his employers, and the pension and wage increase plans are calculated to hold the good men in the service; it is the solution of the problem of keeping help, and will work out successfully in every big institution in the country where harmony exists between employer and employee and the demands of the employees are not such as to make it impossible to establish the concern on such a basis.

The plan of the Philadelphia Traction company, the first street railway system to adopt a pension system, follows:

1. A death benefit of \$500 as immediate and permanent protection to the families of 9000 employees.
2. A pension fund for the same 9000 employees, immediately available, giving to each employee who has been 25 years in the service and has reached the age of 65 the privilege of retiring upon a pension of \$20 a month for life.
3. To motormen and conductors now in the employ of the company and who remain, a raise of wages will be given on July 1, 1910, from 22 to 23 cents per hour; on July 1, 1912, from 23 to 24 cents an hour, and on July 1, 1914, from 24 to 25 cents an hour. New employees coming into the service after Jan. 1, 1910, will get a first increase of one cent an hour two years after employment, and two other increases at intervals of two years. Elevated road employees get like raises every two years to a maximum of 28 cents an hour.

The Philadelphia Rapid Transit is the first traction corporation to establish a pension fund and death benefits payable from its own resources and not contributed by the men.

Voluntarily the company has offered the motormen and conductors an opportunity to reach the highest wages that they asked for at the time of the strike, this by merely continuing in the employ of the company.

Some of the papers are busy printing the statement that Mexico's act in giving asylum to Zelaya was not intended as a slight to Uncle Sam. As if they were printing news. Foreign countries are not in the habit of taking people from under the noses of American warships if the act is intended as a slight.

In the future, Philander Chase Knox will figure as prominently in Central American history as a certain celebrated James Monroe. Probably the sentiments towards the two will be different, but both will be remembered.

Taft And Precedents

TAFT is not going to let one Teddy Roosevelt hold the record for shattering all the precedents.

The new president the other afternoon took away the breath of those who have maintained that the days of Jeffersonian simplicity have long departed, and that the administration is taking on all the ceremonial of a European court, when he calmly left the white house and paid a call on judge Horace H. Lurton, the newly appointed associate justice of the supreme court. The affair was unique in that it was unwritten law that a new official shall make the first call of respect at the white house.

The president, accompanied by Capt. Butt, left the white house in midafternoon and started for a walk over the mall back of the executive mansion. The two were clad for any weather, and both wore stout shoes. The lowering clouds threatened rain, and it was sloppy underfoot.

After they had circled the mall the president led the way up Pennsylvania avenue, and, practically unnoticed, made his way into one of the leading hotels. He inquired for judge Lurton, who is an old friend, and when the hotel clerk had recovered from his surprise, it was discovered that the jurist had gone out for a walk.

"Too bad," said the president, showing his disappointment. "Please tell him that I called."

He then returned to the white house.

It is just as well to have a few precedents of this sort shattered. The president of the United States is the president of all the people; there is a dignity that attaches to the office which should be respected, and precedent says that visitors to the capital must always call first, but there is no reason why the president should not call first if he feels like it. Such an act emphasizes the democracy of our country and its president.

Another man has given his life to science. M. DeLaGrange, the noted French aviator, has paid the penalty for conquering the air. He was successful and will be looked upon in after years as one of the intrepid adventurers who made possible traffic in the clouds, a pioneer of daring, nerve and brains. Pioneers are necessary in everything and it is necessary always that pioneers should suffer. In war and peace, pioneers and heroes are necessary. In the case of the nervy Frenchman, we have both, and the world will not forget him.

Mexico City has 30 condemned murderers awaiting execution in Belem prison alone. The Mexican capital has either an abundance of criminals or a mighty fine police department. No American city the size of the Mexican capital can equal that record.

A Pasadena, Cal., dispatch states that a boy fell 700 feet and then adds: "He was killed."

Mrs. Taft is going to increase the Washington "four hundred" to 1000, it is announced, and even exclude the snobs from the big list, although they had practically controlled the "four hundred." What a jar to the four hundred it must be to have to let in the "vulgar masses."

Canada has a mile of railroad for every 300 people, which is considerably more than the record in the United States. But then we have considerably more people here to divide the railroads among.

UNCLE WALT'S Denatured Poem

IN LIFE'S morn our friends are many, gay our greetings as we pass; every Willie has his Jennie, every lover has his lass. Friends are made each passing minute, underneath the morning sky; there is nothing mournful in it, when we pause to say good-bye. If a friend departs forever, we can spare a passing tear; then it's on to our endeavor—life is young, the skies are clear! In life's eve we wait and ponder for the world that we must go, gazing at the sunset yonder, at the shadows as they grow. Thinking, brooding, dreaming only of the friends who went before; for old age is sad and lonely, by the sunless river's shore. Casting weary backward glances to the reaches we have crossed, where the dying sunlight dances, where the flowers are ephemerally tossed; thinking of the dear old places, where the requiems were sung; thinking of the vanished faces, that we know when life was young. Youth is ever bravely keeping forward march against the blast; Age, alas, is ever weeping o'er the ashes of the past.

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Black Mason

Sidelights Along Washington Byways

Washington, Jan. 7.—"For a politician who was supposed to be on to all the tricks of the game," said a Democratic member of the house, "John Sharp Williams, who will soon be in the senate, was all to the bad when it came to remembering faces."

"When Williams was serving his last term as minority leader of the house, we were badly in need of organization. We had a lot of new members, most of them young, who needed some one to keep them in line and on their jobs. We were talking about the situation in the Democratic cloak room one day. 'Sharp,' said one of the boys, 'you ought to keep these youngsters busy, so they will be interested in their work.'"

"How," asked Williams, as he fondled the pipe he smoked when a student at Heidelberg. "Create some offices," was the reply. "The Republicans have a whip and an assistant whip. We've got a whip, no assistant. Now, if you created the office of assistant whip you would make some promising young legislator think he had something to do for his party instead of worrying what kind of a bill would make the greatest sensation back home."

"I'm willing," drawled Williams. "Got any one in mind?"

"There's young Hughes, of New Jersey," said Williams.

"We did, and we want to know why you changed your mind."

"The truth of the matter is," said the minority leader, "I thought I was talking to Hughes all the time. Now if I go to Hughes and say I intended to make him assistant whip he will be offended because I did not know him. If I go to O'Connell and say I mistook him for Hughes he'll not only be offended for the same reason, but the thing will get into the papers, and I would not look good in his district. I guess I was dreaming of how I would conduct myself when I shift over to that crew of heavyweights in the senate. The drinks are on me, boys."

Foreign noblemen seeking American help are to be taxed in the future. If representative Sabath, of Illinois, can have his way, Mr. Sabath thinks it is worth while to do something to discourage the exportation of American fortunes, along with American brides, to Europe. To this end he will introduce, immediately after the holidays, a bill to impose a graduated tax on dowries. If the tax should be imposed, the prospects of needy noblemen, for it would tax dowries of \$1,000,000 or more at the rate of 20 percent. That is, \$200,000 is only 1 percent; \$500,000 to \$1,000,000, 5 percent; \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000, 10 percent.

Charles Car company for 150 box and 50 stock cars, to be delivered by April 1.

Walter Williams, shot yesterday morning by pastor Grigsby, of the African Methodist church, is reported to be still alive, though in a serious condition. Public sympathy is with Grigsby.

Two Mexicans, carrying a large plate glass window, had a narrow escape from serious injury this afternoon when the glass slipped. They managed to lose their hold on it, and it smashed on the pavement.

The slight settling of the Center block during the recent wet spell caused the show window in Slack's grocery store to crack.

The El Paso W. C. T. U. has been finally organized with 27 members, the following officers having been elected: President, Mrs. R. N. Dunham; vice presidents, Mrs. J. M. Lott, Mrs. C. B. Patterson, Mrs. S. K. Hallam, Mrs. M. J. Spencer, Mrs. L. R. Millican, Miss Alice Gutting; recording secretary, Miss Mamie Dix; corresponding secretary, Mrs. O. C. Strohm; treasurer, Miss Grace L. Townsend.

Freight traffic on the Southern Pacific has been very heavy during the past 10 days.

Fiftythree carloads of ore were imported this morning.

Metal market—Silver, 65 7-8; lead, 33; copper, .08; Mexican pesos, .54.

paper of depriving El Paso of the modest luxury of a hotel that would have cost a few million dollars? But it does seem that those who possessed this modest sum of wealth might have tried their own judgement, but your contemporary says they were willing to abide by The Herald's ideas and gave up the project.

Please let me know through the old reliable Herald, what class of people the newspaper paper has for a following. Instantly it is always admits that your influence is so great, and why is it that you can and do lead even some of our Democrats as though we had no brains of our own?

Be charitable these Christmas times, Mr. Herald; divide up and help your brother journalist to a little common Texas sense.

Horse Lover.

The big saving event will be found on page 7 of today's Herald in Ardo's advertisement.

Globe Flour, nest by test, and the payroll in El Paso.

Are you not accused in the morning

LETTERS

To the

HERALD

(All communications must bear the signature of the writer, but the name will not be published where such request is made.)

THE HERALD AND THE PEOPLE.

El Paso, Jan. 7.

Editor El Paso Herald:

I think you have the people hoodwinked for it seems that you are sanctioning in your paper the people swallow it all down in one gulp.

Can it be true that the grand Lone Star state has a community of people who don't think for themselves, but let The Herald do their thinking for them?

Unless we call a halt and you are curbed, you may want to do our praying also.

Are you not accused in the morning

NICARAGUA, LAND OF BLAST D HOPES.

COUNTRY THOUGHT IT WOULD GET THE CANAL
II—Turbulent Central America.

By
Frederic
J. Haskin

WITH the greatest canal on the globe almost ready to become a reality, Nicaragua thought it was destined to be one of the favored spots of the world. It thought itself the "Western Bosphorus," and considered that it was only a question of time until the commerce of the oceans would pass through its borders via the Nicaraguan canal.

The United States had decided upon an interoceanic canal, all parties were pledged to it, and indeed both houses of congress had at one time or another voted for it. Nicaragua was in high hopes, and Hannibal, selling the public places in Rome while yet without its walls, found a counterpart in the spirit of speculation that possessed the Nicaraguans.

But in a moment all was changed. Senator Hanna took up the cudgels for Panama, the senate turned to that route, the hope followed and Nicaragua became the land of blasted hopes. Down there they still believe that the monumental mistake of history was made when Panama was chosen.

Enlist Opposition in Army.

Nominally Nicaragua is a republic, where the will of the people should be supreme. In constitution reads as smooth as our own, but only the letter and not the spirit prevails. Every man is supposed to have the right of suffrage, yet there is another provision which sets forth that no soldier in the army shall vote. And the president has the right to enlist whom he will. Result: When there is a close election thousands of the opposition are temporarily enlisted in the army.

Cock fighting is the principal pastime of the people. Some of the Nicaraguans wear their hair trimmed close except for a little circle on top of the head. The barber cuts a cocoon in half, fits it on the head like a cap, then trims away all the hair not covered by the shell.

Ant Life of Nicaragua.

The ant life of Nicaragua is most interesting. There is one species that are agriculturists of a high order. One sees them carrying little green leaves toward their homes and then going back for more.

It was long presumed that the ants used these leaves for food, but investigation showed that the young ones chew them up finely and then, in communion with another substance, use them as a compost in which to grow a kind of tiny mushroom which constitutes the food for the ants when they are shut indoors by the rain.

The evidence of this is so positive as to admit of no charge of nature faking.

Ants of another species are great foragers, and travel in hordes on their

Presidential Succession.

Nicaragua has a most unique plan of presidential succession in times of peace. The names of five senators are written upon slips of paper, placed in a box, and the names are drawn out one by one in the state archives. The other two are destroyed without their contents being known.

When there is a vacancy in the presidency the duly constituted authorities of the department of education open the first envelope and the senator whose name is written thereon becomes president. Here we see how the people distrust their own associates. The name of the heir apparent must be kept a profound secret lest he or his friends seek to hasten the succession.

"Dumb Driven Cattle."

Nicaragua is not noted for a high average of intelligence among its people. Those at the head of affairs are usually well educated, and there are also among the well-to-do classes of the country, but the rank and file are merely ignorant, unlettered tropical people.

They are "dumb driven cattle," who lend themselves readily to the purposes of the demagogue. They are nearly always against the government because they so often feel the law's restraining hand.

Some idea of the prevalence of ignorance may be had from a report made by the head of the department of education, who states that in Granada and Leon, the most highly civilized cities of the country, only 30 percent of the children are enrolled in the schools. He concludes that one-seventh of the children of Nicaragua learn to read and write.

The majority of the people live in adobe houses, covered with tiles or with thatched roofs. Usually there is no floor in the rural home, and if there is a ceiling it is only a sheet of white cloth tacked up to hide the ugliness of the underfoot. Beds without mattresses, rooms without windows, cooking without stoves and grinding with old fashioned Indian millstones are still the rule rather than the exception.

Clothing is Simple.

The clothing of the average Nicaraguan is extremely simple. Among the poorer classes the boys run in the Adam's suit, and the girls wear a simple slip made from a single piece of muslin. The ordinary clothing of the men consists of a palmleaf hat, a shirt and a pair of trousers. All go barefooted, except the Indians, who wear sandals. The women wear a chemise, a cotton skirt and a kind of light shawl.

Those of high caste imitate European ways, habits, and plentiful in numbers, but short in quality. It is said that the average laborer wants to be treated as a nabob or hidalgos. Among the poorer classes hidalgism is considered a more sacred rite than marriage.

Hospitality People.

As a rule the Nicaraguans are polite, honest and fun-loving. Their speech abounds in compliments, and their hos-

pitality is such that the stranger is always received with courtesy. The best house affords, though it may be nothing more than a cup of coffee and a small cake, is placed at his disposal.

The Indians, though for centuries treated with cruelty by the Spaniards, have not been soured by misuse and still go their way with much song and laughter. They are quick to coin words and characterize people according to their occupation. When the first engineering party on the Nicaraguan canal established itself at Rivas, the wife of the engineer in charge accompanied it. Later she received a letter which had no address other than "La Canaleria"—literally the woman of the canal.

Honesty is Marked.

Honesty is a marked characteristic of the average low caste Nicaraguan. In the little stores the customers often wear their own hats. Sometimes the storekeepers have their cigars and cigarettes where the passerby may get them and drop the price in a cup by the side of the box. Even the beggar will not touch this unguaranteed cup.

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Area of New York.

Nicaragua has practically the same area as the state of New York, and its population is about equal to that of the city of Baltimore. Five-sixths of the inhabitants live on the western or Pacific coast. The principal port on the Pacific side is Corinto, which has about 2000 inhabitants. The principal town on the east side is Bluefields, which is 155 miles from New Orleans.

Nicaragua has one railroad, which runs from Corinto to Managua, and from there to Granada on Lake Nicaragua, the largest inland body of water in that part of the world. Last year Nicaragua bought from the United States textiles, clothing, machinery, etc., to the amount of \$1,300,000, and sold to this country bananas, coffee, rubber, mahogany, cattle, hides, etc., to the amount of \$1,000,000.

Many Race Types.

On the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua there are 17 recognized races, the product of the mixture of Chinese, Indian, Spanish and other races. The races are almost as many as the varieties of political parties, divided by distinctions hardly less exquisite than those which separate the various races on the coast. The issue on which these parties differ is at bottom, the matter of the church.

In Nicaragua there exists a religious question almost exactly parallel to that which still troubles the people of France. This situation is probably due to a considerable extent to that close sympathy and quick response which Central America manifests towards things French.

In spite of the geographical proximity of the United States, its influence in Latin America is far less definite than that of France. It is to Paris that Central America looks for new ideas. It is French politics that Central American statesmen study and imitate. Much that the American public finds difficult to understand in Central American affairs may be explained by referring to contemporary movements in France.

Tomorrow—Rivalry of Leon and Granada.

time for its consideration and the action taken at its last meeting was simply a favorable reply to our request of a month before. If a public meeting is called to be held by Mrs. Turner, of the Associated Charities, it is not contemplated that a central council will have any executive functions whatsoever, nor that it employ any person in any capacity. It would be a council of advice only.

Personally let me say that I think the Women's Associated Charities is unduly the work undertaken by it most commendably. It is a comparatively new organization and has necessarily much to learn, but is going at its lessons bravely. Its active field worker, Miss Harrison, is a woman admirably fitted for her position both by personal qualifications and training. She is a daughter of Col. Z. D. Harrison of Atlanta, for many years clerk of the supreme court of Georgia, and head of the publishing firm of Harrison & Co., has had every advantage, and need turn her hand to nothing for her own support. She has been the study of social conditions her life work from her love of it and from her desire to relieve human suffering in a practical way. She has been trained in such work both in this country and abroad, and comes to us with the highest recommendations for efficiency.

She has been criticised as receiving the enormous salary of \$100 per month, exactly what was paid her predecessor, who happened to be a man, and whose activities she has already exceeded by one-half. This is but natural, as in this particular field a woman only can go into the details of women's lives and be really helpful. She has the fullest confidence of the society behind her, as well as of the men composing the advisory committee, and it would be well for the general public to obtain all the facts at headquarters before making unkindly criticism of either her intentions or of her administrative ability.

Very respectfully,
Henry Easter.

A big advance in meats but a special sale of them is now at Ardo's market. See ad on page 7 today.

WHEN COOK WAS DROPPED

A noise resembling thunder. Causing all the folk to wonder. In El Paso, even this far out—What the—well, what's it all about? Has been heard in every city. Nation wide, and what a pity When the public at the papers look And read, "Another Club drops Cook."

There are jokes about the cough drop (The noise made by a cough drop). And that good thing which we need—About the man that dropped to sleep. But the latest and most timely gag To inject in conversation's lag Is about the noise—here comes the rub.

"Cook dropped, hear it? from another Arctic club." —T. G. T.

"WHERE THE MONEY IS." From Albuquerque (N. M.) Citizen Tribune.

Our friend, the El Paso Herald, has a full and very creditable report of the financial condition of the United States and the amount of money held by the different banks, and, indeed, it is very instructive and has many valuable features, but there is one thing that would cause a laugh. This is the headline: "Everybody has \$3 in in United States, whether you know it or not."

We would like for our neighbor to make a new computation and save about 30 cents per man, and have as many millions more than they need or are doing any good with, and then divide that per capita. What a falling down it would show.

It is true we are a very rich nation, as a nation, but the holders of that wealth are very few, indeed.

See announcement of Ardo's special sale. Ad on page 7 of today's Herald.

Springer's year and clearance sale begins soon. Wait for it.

El Paso Mexican Was Executioner of Maximilian

He says president Diaz saluted him when he visited El Paso. His story will appear in Saturday's Greater Herald

NOGALES MAN HAS FAMILY KILLED BY INDIANS

Is now a business man of the Arizona town, with only the memory of his wife and heavy victims of the redskins, to comfort him in his advancing years. The story will appear in the Greater Saturday Herald.

CHINA AND HER YELLOW JOURNALISM

Frank Carpenter writes in his usual entertaining style for the Greater Saturday Herald. His story on Chinese yellow journalism is particularly interesting.

FOLLIES OF THE AMERICAN NATIONAL CAPITAL

Rene Bache has a particularly salacious story on society in the capital at Washington for the Greater Saturday Herald. Don't miss it.

These are only a few features of the Greater Saturday Herald, just printed to whet the reader's appetite for the rest. Don't miss it.

"The Herald Prints It First"